



P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Krannich et al.

Application No.: 10/670,991

Filed: September 25, 2003

For: CONVEYOR DEVICE FOR ADVANCING WORK-PIECES THROUGH  
A PROCESSING ZONE FOR THE SURFACE TREATMENT OF  
THE WORK-PIECES

**MS MISSING PARTS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to MS MISSING PARTS, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 20, 2004  
By: Carol Prentice  
Carol Prentice

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants wish to call  
- the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

U.S. PATENT(S):

<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Patentee</u>	<u>Date of Issue</u>
5,012,917	Gilbert et al.	May 07, 1991
5,242,045	Kakida et al.	Sep 07, 1993

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT(S):

<u>Country</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date of Publication</u>
International	01/17691	Mar 15, 2001

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The references listed above were cited by the International Examiner in the Search Report (copy enclosed) of Applicants' counterpart international patent application no. PCT/EP02/04074 (MPEP §2001.06(a)).

A copy of the above-listed foreign reference is enclosed, together with a completed form PTO-1449.

Consideration of these references by the Examiner is respectfully requested. To date, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application. This Information Disclosure Statement is therefore believed to be timely filed.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

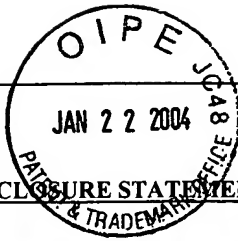
Respectfully submitted,



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**Date: January 20, 2004**  
**ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: HOE-779**



FORM PTO-1449

ATTY. DOCKET NO.: HOE-779

SERIAL NO.:  
10/670,991INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT(S): Krannich et al.

FILING DATE: September 25, 2003

GROUP:

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	5,012,917	05/07/1991	Gilbert et al.			
	AB	5,242,045	09/07/1993	Kakida et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANS- LATION YES NO
	AC	01/17691	03/15/2001	International			

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)**


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.